

W. J. Mottson, Proprietor and Publisher.

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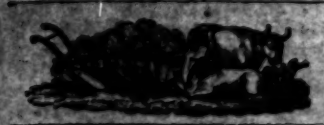
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**AGENTS:**  
C. E. R. C. Co., Charlotte, N. C.  
C. E. R. C. Co., Charlotte, N. C.

**WEEKLY ALMANAC.**

DAY	MOON'S PHASES
1st	1st Quarter
2nd	2nd Quarter
3rd	3rd Quarter
4th	4th Quarter
5th	1st Quarter
6th	2nd Quarter
7th	3rd Quarter
8th	4th Quarter
9th	1st Quarter
10th	2nd Quarter
11th	3rd Quarter
12th	4th Quarter
13th	1st Quarter
14th	2nd Quarter
15th	3rd Quarter
16th	4th Quarter
17th	1st Quarter
18th	2nd Quarter
19th	3rd Quarter
20th	4th Quarter
21st	1st Quarter
22nd	2nd Quarter
23rd	3rd Quarter
24th	4th Quarter
25th	1st Quarter
26th	2nd Quarter
27th	3rd Quarter
28th	4th Quarter
29th	1st Quarter
30th	2nd Quarter
31st	3rd Quarter

**RURAL ECONOMY.**



**FARM IMPLEMENTS.**

No mechanic can execute a test piece of work without suitable tools, and no farmer can keep clean fields and raise good crops without implements adapted to each operation. One of the first impulses given to improve British husbandry, was the creation of better farm tools than they had previously used. By implements we mean every thing that is used in producing food for man and beast, or in preparing it for use, such also as have any agency in the production of vegetables, articles, or articles for the gratification of the eye and convenience of life.

At present we will only mention such as are ordinarily used in the spring, and particularly in February. 1st. Every farmer has a plough of some kind, but the chief study of each should be, to have such as require the least force and effectually perform the ground to a sufficient depth, and turning it over to the free admission and action of the rains, dew, and atmosphere. There is not only science displayed in the construction of good ploughs, but it also requires equal judgment to follow the plough in a skilful manner. Farmers are such imitators in the idea, that almost any little boy, girl, or awkward woman will do so plough. If there is any portion of labor that demands the very best hands, it is that of ploughing. It is well known that in Europe, more are awarded to those who are skilled in turning the sword, as we to most farmers are awarded to receive the water and air. Nothing is more common than ploughing matches. If the agriculture of Tennessee ever becomes sufficiently improved, we shall expect to see our most talented citizens, men and most philosophical farmers, associating together to ascertain how to construct the best plough, and study the deep secrets of turning the furrow to the best advantage. As there is no pattern of ploughs which we can recommend in preference to others, we must request farmers who use such as are esteemed the best ploughs, to report to us their experience and success.

Harrows may be of different shapes and sizes, to suit the taste of the agriculturist and work to be performed, but almost every variety is a useful auxiliary in the preparation of the soil for the reception of the seed, and also to cover them after they are sown. No farmer or gardener should be without them, for they are the best article for leveling the surface, breaking large clods, and effectually tearing up young weeds that infest the crop, which can be used.

Cultivators have been little known or used by farmers in the west, but those who have tried them, find them the greatest labor-saving machines that have been introduced. Bennett's Cultivator is decidedly the best we have seen. In the cultivation of Indian corn or roots, double the work can be performed with it than with any common plough in the country. It may be very close to the young plants, so as to loosen the surface about the tender roots cover noxious weeds, and at the same time completely clear the middles. For rendering the ground light permeable and well prepared to resist the scorplings of the sun's rays in the last working the crop, nothing equals the Cultivator.

The Roller, though little known, yet is invaluable on a farm. It may be constructed with a cylinder of oak or ash, from 3 to 6 or 8 feet in length and from 16 to 20 inches in diameter, with ridges at each end. With these directions few men would lack mechanical genius to fix a frame or shaft to hitch the horse. It is found to produce an excellent effect after the seed is covered; it unites and levels the surface of the ground, and is particularly useful for porous and light soils, and for those earths of which the constituent particles are fine and light. If much soil have not received a suitable degree of firmness from the roller, high winds and rains are apt to carry off the upper layers and to leave bare the roots of the plants. Another advantage arising from the application of the roller is, that the soil which has been rolled is so firm, that it will bear the weight of the horse, or of the plow, and it will not sink under the feet of the horse, or of the plow.

by shows, the roots are left almost without support, as the earth scarcely adheres to them; the roller, applied to land as soon as they are firm enough to admit of its being passed over them, is very useful, as it reunites the earth to the roots, and repairs the injury done by the frosts and thaws.

These are among the articles of the farm which we trust soon to see in the possession of every cultivator of the soil.—*Agriculturist.*

**Davidson County.**—The Superior Court for Davidson county was held last week—his honor Judge Dick presiding. The most important business which came before the court, or at least that which excited most general interest, was the trial of certain women who were charged with the murder of a child, which resulted in the discharge of the accused.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Colton, agent of the Board of Internal Improvement, addressed a portion of the citizens of the county, assembled in the court-house, in behalf of the Western Railroad, soliciting subscriptions to this great and desirable enterprise; but with what success we are now unable to say. Davidson is deeply interested in the progress and success of this work, and ought to lead it a liberal hand.

When Mr. Colton concluded, notice was given that Mr. Morehead would address the people, and the court house was soon crowded. Mr. M. spoke at some length, in his usual pleasant and commanding style, and with but few exceptions, the countenances and the applause of his hearers plainly told that he "preached their own experience" precisely. Mr. Morehead's manners, integrity and talents are highly and properly appreciated in Davidson, and from present indications, were we to venture a prediction with regard to her vote, we should predict that Morehead's majority in Davidson will exceed that of any other county in the State in proportion to the whole number of votes given—hardly excepting even old Guilford. "We have often employed Mr. Morehead to do business for us," says some of the honest yeomen of the country, "he has always done the best he could for us, he has never deceived us, and we are not afraid to trust him again."—*Greensborough Patriot.*

**"Defining our position."**—Some days ago, a gentleman from one of the upper counties, with whom we had had considerable correspondence, called in and inquired for the Editor of the Observer. He exhibited some incredulity when we responded to his enquiry, and remarked that the Tories in his county were as much in the habit of railing out against "Old Hain," that he had expected to find an old gray headed man. Another of our subscribers lately called to pay his subscription, when we presented ourselves to him as "Mr. Hain," he said he wanted to see "the old man." With some difficulty we convinced him that we were, "the old man," when he declared that the Tories had led him to look for a squint-eyed, hump-backed old fellow, and proceeded to pay us some very flattering compliments upon the superiority of the original over the picture he had drawn in his own mind.

These things have moved us to make a general disclaimer of the honors of old age; and to assure such of our readers as may not be aware of the fact by ocular demonstration, (especially our fair readers,) that we have not yet past the meridian of life. Indeed, we almost think that we are ten years younger than we were the day Van Buren was elected; and if Harrison should beat him next Fall, (as we are sure he will,) the few gray hairs which will sometimes make themselves visible, will turn to jet; while our neighbor of the Carolinian will rise on the 4th of March next with a head as white as snow, which no "Tyrian dye" will be capable of transforming into ebony.—*Fay Observer.*

**Franklin County.**—We are rejoiced to learn that even in this county, which has always been remarkable for its adherence to Jackson-Van Burenism, there is a tremendous revolution taking place in public sentiment, which promises the most auspicious results. It is considered very doubtful whether Saunders or Morehead will obtain the majority in this County, though the opinion is confidently expressed that the latter will run ahead. Strong hopes are also felt of electing one or more Harrison Whites to the Legislature. During Court last week, a numerous political meeting was held at Lenoir, which was enlisted by the spirit, characteristic of all Harrison Reform assemblies of the People. Mr. W. H. Battle and Mr. Badger addressed the meeting with great effect. The proceedings have not yet come to hand.—*Ral. Reg.*

**Randolph County.**—This has always been regarded as a poor County; and it is so in point of wealth and pecuniary means. But so far as industry and manly enterprise are calculated to enrich a people, our citizens have little to fear, and much to hope for and encourage them. To say nothing of the industry, economy and improving skill of the Farmers and Mechanics throughout the County, we point with conscious pride and pleasure, to our public Manufacturing Establishments, and then reflect that Randolph has done more for the contemplated Fayetteville and Western Rail Road than Chatham, Guilford and Davidson all put together. Citizens of Randolph, look at these things, and you may justly feel proud of your county. —*RAM ONWARD.*—*Southern Citizen.*

The House Post Office Congress, as a body of men who abuse each other for slight faults, and who are not fit to be in the

**TWENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.**

From the Correspondence of the Ral. Register. APRIL 10.

Yesterday, after the journal of the House was read, Mr. Lincoln asked leave, in behalf of his Colleague, Mr. Abbot Lawrence (who is still confined in his room by sickness) to submit a communication from the Hon. T. H. Perkins, of Boston, and a number of the merchants of Boston and Salem, interested in the China trade, containing intelligence recently received from that country, not publicly known, with a view of referring the communication to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Leave was given.

The business first in order, was a resolution of Mr. Hand, for the reception of which the rules were suspended on Tuesday, but further action on it was prevented by the announcement of the death of Mr. Betts. This resolution requested the Secretary of War to lay before the House a Report of a full and connected system of National Defense, embracing steam and other vessels of war and floating batteries for coast and harbor defense; and national foundries, and the internal means auxiliary to these, for transportation and other warlike uses by land; and that he furnish the House with the Report submitted to his Department at any time by Major-General Gaines, or other persons of professional experience, of their plans of defense. And that the Secretary furnish an estimate of the expense of his own and other plans, distinguishing such part of the plans as ought to be immediately adopted, &c. Mr. Hand expressed a willingness to accept of this proposition as an amendment. Mr. Wise then submitted some remarks in favor of the measure proposed, in which he spoke of the present defenseless state of the country, and of the folly of talking about going to war with Great Britain for a few pine logs in Maine, when our commerce, our national honour, our lives and every portion of our frontier, are exposed to British aggression. He had no idea of a war at present; but he went for the necessity of fortifications on a liberal scale for a peace establishment. Mr. Hand made some remarks, and moved the previous question. Mr. Adams hoped the gentleman would withdraw his motion for the previous question for the present. He wished to say a few words on the subject, because he found considerable anxiety was felt on it amongst a portion of his constituents. He concurred entirely in opinion with the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Wise) that there is not the slightest danger at present, nor for years to come, of a war with Great Britain. Indeed, if the President apprehended a danger of this kind, he would at once have told Congress of it. The gentleman from S. Carolina (Mr. Pickens) had sounded the alarm, but without any reasonable ground for it. If the two Governments could not agree upon terms of adjustment, the matter would doubtless be referred again to a third party.

After some further debate, the previous question was taken, and the Resolution, as amended, was agreed to. The House then went into a Committee of the whole on the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill, on which considerable debate took place. After some time spent upon it, Mr. Duncan, who had the floor, gave way for a motion for the Committee to rise and adjourn.

In the Senate, Mr. Preston introduced a joint Resolution, authorizing the Library Committee to take measures for the importation and erection of the Statue of General Washington, by Greenough.

The bill to revive the Act to enable claimants to lands within the limits of Missouri and Arkansas to institute proceedings to try the validity of their claims, &c. underwent some discussion; but its further consideration was postponed, and the Senate spent the remainder of the day on Executive business.

It is pretty generally believed here, that there is a design amongst the prominent friends of the Administration to get up a War Panic in the Country, with the hope of drawing off the attention of the people from their domestic grievances, which they appear to have pretty generally determined to regulate in the only regular and legitimate mode; but the best informed people here do not believe there is at present the least ground to apprehend a War between Great Britain and this Country, notwithstanding the apparent warmth which appears in the Correspondence between our Secretary of State and the British Minister.

**APRIL 11.**  
The business first taken up in the House yesterday was a Resolution reported by Mr. Briggs, from the Committee on Public Expenditures proposing that said Committee be abolished, the duties originally assigned to it having been since transferred to other Committees.

Mr. Cushing was opposed to the motion. He denied both the premises and conclusion of the Resolution. If the Committee was abolished, he hoped it would be done under a general revision of the rules of the House at the commencement of the session.

After some further debate, the hour for taking up the order of the day arrived, before the question was decided.

Mr. Bell, by general consent, offered a Resolution giving the Committee on Indian Affairs leave to send for persons and papers in the matters referred to them in relation to the annihilation of the Treaty with the Winnebago Indians, which was agreed to.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole on the state of the Union, on the bill making appropriations for the Civil and Diplomatic Expenses of the Government; when Mr. Duncan, who was called to the floor, addressed the Com-

mittee at great length, amongst other subjects, taking a review of the military, political and other qualities of Gen. Harrison.

In the Senate, there was a great number of petitions presented and sundry reports brought forward.

Mr. Davis submitted a document from the Sugar Refiners of New York in relation to the drawback on refined Sugars, showing that the net revenue accruing to the United States in the years 1837 and 1838, on Sugar, after deducting all the refined Sugar exported on which drawback was paid, amounted to \$4,551,664. So that Mr. Beaton's information must have been very incorrect when he stated in a speech a few weeks ago, that the whole of the revenue derived from brown Sugar in those years, was delivered over gratuitously to a few dozen Sugar Refiners.

The Senate have passed the following Resolution, [as appears from the injunction being removed from the proceedings on the subject] in relation to the late Treaty with the New York Indians, by the casting vote of the Vice President:

Resolved, That in the opinion of the Senate, the treaty between the United States and the Six Nations of New York Indians, together with the amendments proposed by the Senate of the 11th of June, 1836, have been satisfactorily acceded to and approved of by said tribes, the Seneca tribe included; and that, in the opinion of the Senate, the President is authorized to proclaim the treaty as in full power and operation.

The following are the Yeas and Nays on the question:

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Dixon, Grandy, Henderson, Hubbard, Lumpkin, Merrick, Norvell, Porter, Preston, Robinson, Rogers, Smith of Ala. Sturgeon, Tallmadge, Tappan, Wright, Young—19.

Nays—Messrs. Anderson, Brown, Calhoun, Clay of Ky. Clay of Ala. Clayton, Crittenden, Fulton, King, Linn, Nicholas, Phelps, Prentiss, Reans, Sevier, Southard, Strong, White, Williams—19.

The Senate being equally divided, the Vice President voted in the affirmative.

**APRIL 12.**

The business before the House during the morning hour on Saturday, was the Resolution submitted by Mr. Briggs, for abolishing the Committee on Public Expenditures, the duties originally assigned to that Committee, having been transferred to others.

Mr. Wise spoke against the motion, and animadverted with some severity on the neglect of the Committee in question, to investigate the numerous abuses in the several Departments.

At the expiration of the hour, the bills from the Senate which lay on the table were taken up and acted upon. After which, the House went again into a Committee of the whole on the General Appropriation bill. Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, moved to strike out the enacting clause of the bill, and spoke at considerable length on the extravagant appropriations of the present Administration, contrary to all its professions of economy, and fully replied to the charges which had been made against Gen. Harrison.

Mr. Giddings' motion was negatived without a count.

The first item in the bill being read, Mr. Wise took a view of the extravagance of the present Expenditures, compared with those under the Administration of Mr. Adams, which had been so greatly complained of by the men now in power.

Mr. Jones, the Chairman of the Committee on Finance, defended the bill, and challenged the gentleman from Virginia to an examination of its several items.

Mr. Wise accepted the challenge, and produced a portfolio of papers preparatory to the examination, which produced loud cries for the Committee to rise. It rose accordingly, and the House adjourned.—Mr. W. has, of course, the floor for Monday.

The Senate did not sit on Saturday.

**APRIL 15.**

On Monday, in the House, the greater part of the day was consumed in presenting Petitions.

An attempt was then made to report on the printing business, after which the House went into Committee of the whole on the General Appropriation bill, when Mr. Wise spoke at length on the extravagant appropriations of the present Administration.

Mr. Jones replied, and the debate was continued by Messrs. Samuel, Stanly and Hopkins. The Committee then rose and reported progress.

The Senate discussed the bill to revive the act to enable claimants of land in Missouri and Arkansas to try their claims, and ordered it to be engrossed, 21 yeas to 11.

On Tuesday, after ordering the Reports in relation to Printing, both of the majority and minority, to be printed, the House again entered on the Appropriation bill, and Messrs. Stanly, Stearns, Dawson, Graves, Marvin and Ogil took part in the debate, and the Committee again rose and reported progress.

Mr. Johnson, of Va. made a Report, on the extravagant charges for Stationery, and Mr. Johnston, of New York, presented a counter Report, and both were ordered to be printed.

**OFFICIAL PAPER.**

**ORGANIZATION OF THE MILITIA.**

Let's from the Secretary of War, transmitting a system of reorganization of the Militia of the U. S.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—March 20th, 1840.

REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE MILITIA.

WAR DEPARTMENT, March 20, 1840.

SIR: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 9th instant, "that the Secretary of War be requested to communicate his plan, in detail, for the reorganization of the militia of the United States," I have the honor to submit the following report:

The impossibility of guarding our exposed frontiers by the small regular force of the United States renders it necessary that some plan should be devised to make the militia available without burdening the country, either by too great an expense in maintaining it in the field, or by abstracting too large a number of useful citizens from the productive labors of agriculture or of the mechanic arts.

The mass of the militia of the United States, as at present organized, does not fall short of one million five hundred thousand men; and every day that they are mustered for inspection or exercise, abstracts at least one million of dollars from the earnings of labor, without adding any thing whatever to the military efficiency of the country, and too often affecting injuriously the moral condition of those who are assembled for the purpose. Left by the little instruction they receive on such occasions, without discipline, subordination, or knowledge of the use of arms, and totally ignorant of the manner of taking care of themselves or of each in the field, such a militia, if called out in mass, would rather prove a burden than an assistance to the army employed in the defence of the country, as is shown by the experience of Gen. Washington, repeatedly expressed in his correspondence, as well as by the result of more recent events during the last war.

It is true that, in the principal cities of the United States, there are to be found well organized, disciplined, and soldier like companies, battalions, regiments, brigades, and divisions of volunteers; men who, individually and collectively, would do good service in the field. But anyone acquainted practically with war knows that to fight bravely, and even to manoeuvre coolly and skillfully, on the field of battle are not the most necessary qualifications of the soldier.

They are, perhaps, the most common, and the least often called into action. Soldiers must be taught their duties in garrison, and in the field, in marching and encamping, in the police and military administration of an army. This instruction so essential, and without which it is impossible to form the soldier, cannot be given in a day's training, by officers nearly as ignorant of these branches of the service as the soldiers themselves. I speak of the generality of the militia officers. It must be imparted by veteran and skilful officers, in garrison and in camp, and to men and officers alike; and it must be imparted to a few at a time.

Any attempt to organize, discipline, and render every way fit for service in the field, the unwieldy mass of the militia of this vast country, which will soon ascend to two millions of men, must fail for want of means, and leave the country exposed to the terrible disasters which will attend the first burst of war upon its frontiers, if they are to be defended by armed but undisciplined multitudes.

It has been supposed that it will be sufficient to instruct the officers only, and that the privates can, under well-instructed officers, be formed into soldiers instantly, by the magic voices of good commanders.—This is a double and a most dangerous error. In the first place, it requires time to form a soldier, under the most practiced, experienced, and skilful officers; and our soil might be polluted by the foot of the invader, our cities taken and sacked, and our forts occupied, before our armed citizens could be taught the elements of tactics, or the simple use of the firelock. And, secondly, it will prove a fatal error to suppose that an officer can be formed by being drilled as a private. The habit of command, the prompt eye, the firm tone, the self-possession in moments of difficulty and danger, which inspire the men with confidence and courage, and are so essential to secure their ready obedience, are the result of practice. The officers and privates who are to act together in the field must be drilled together, and practised, the one to the duties of obedience, and the other of those of command.

Satisfied that an efficient force cannot be created by drilling the officers alone, as well as of the impracticability of rendering the whole mass of the militia available, at the same time, for the defence of the country; and convinced from the experience of our past wars, that it is necessary to organize and discipline a select body of citizen soldiers, who, in a moment of danger, will know their stations, and their duties when assembled there, and who, although separated from the mass for a short time, will return and impart to it the military knowledge and experience they have acquired during their period of service.

I have prepared the plan, the details of which are herewith submitted, agreeably to the resolution of the House. It is believed that, on examining them, it will be apparent that the scheme is not liable to any one of the objections that are urged against large standing armies; but on the contrary, that it will form a select body of well-disciplined militia, ready themselves to defend their country in the hour of danger against any sudden attack, and furnishing a corps, around which the less-instructed mass may rally; possessing in some degree, the military knowledge and skill of regular soldiers, they will be able alike to protect their country from a foreign foe, and to guard its liberties from any danger that may threaten them.

It appears to me that the organization now proposed will prevent the necessity of maintaining large standing armies, even in time of war. The militia, properly drilled and instructed, will thereby be rendered perfectly efficient, and capable of defending the forts along our maritime frontier, which, in the absence of such an organization will require a regular army of fifty thousand men. At present, the militia cannot be rendered immediately available against a surprise; whereas under the proposed organization, they would repair to their stations at the first alarm, and would be efficient soldiers when there. In case of war, those stations would become permanent, and the arrangements might easily be made so as to render the service as little burdensome as possible to the artisan and mechanic.

Every precaution has been taken to avoid all interference with the rights of the States, or to lessen their means of defence. The militia will be called out in the manner or present provided for by law, and no change is contemplated in the mode of officering the several corps of which the militia is composed. It will not abstract a single man from the defence of the State where he resides, nor separate him from the class of Citizens to which he belongs. It will, on the contrary, strengthen the defences of each State, by furnishing it with a well-organized and well-disciplined force, taken from the People, and making part of the People equally interested with their fellow-citizens in the preservation of free institutions, and ready at all times to guard the territory and the liberty of their country. Neither does it interfere, in any manner, with the constitutional rights of the States to train their own militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress, because the active militia will be employed by the President during the period they are preparing for warlike service in garrison and in the field. And while the States have all the advantages which may result from a well-organized and disciplined militia, they will, at the same time, be exempt from the losses, expenses, and evils which follow, necessarily, from the assembling of large multitudes for merely a nominal military instruction. It is to be considered, also, that a portion of the militia are provided with opportunities for the attainment of the essentials of military knowledge; and, at the same time that they relieve the remainder from an onerous and useless burden, they themselves will not be oppressed by an undue amount of military service being required of them; but, on the contrary, by comparing the time which, under the present system, is devoted to that object, it will be found that there is but very little additional service, if any, required, and for that time they will be sufficiently compensated. The compensation contemplated is adequate under a good administration of the laws proposed, which are to be made uniform in their application, by regulations to be issued by the President, so as to prevent any expense to the citizen who is thus called; though it may not rise, in amount, to the sum which his pursuits in social life might afford. The total amount required to recompense the militia to be called out for exercise will be trifling, when compared with the loss of time experienced by our fellow-citizens under the present imperfect organization, and of the serious evils to which the youth of the country are exposed by the frequent attempts now made to impart to them a very imperfect knowledge of the duties of the soldier. The subjoined plan will, it is believed, tend to diminish, if not entirely remove, such evils, and will also, by engendering an esprit de corps throughout the militia of the several districts, elevate in the mind of every citizen the character of the duties which he is required to perform, and thus make more certain the results which are hoped for by this system of military precaution and defence.

In preparing the details of the proposed reorganization of the militia of the United States, I have been governed by an earnest desire to place the country in an attitude of defence; and, at the same time, to secure it from the necessity of maintaining at any period a large standing army; to render the militia effective, without withdrawing too large a number of our fellow citizens from their occupations at any one time; and to diffuse throughout the community generally some knowledge of military service, without taxing the Treasury too heavily. All this, it appears to me, will be effected by drilling, during four years, one hundred thousand men, for a period not exceeding thirty nor less than ten days in each and every year, at such times as may least interfere with their ordinary occupations; and, for an equal term, keeping that force so organized that it may serve as a reserve, ready to act in cases of emergency; doing, in the meanwhile, ordinary militia duty, such as is now required by law in the several States. The expense of the system, which, if carried out, would place the United States in an impenetrable state of defence, will not exceed \$1,000,000 yearly, if the maximum number of days for drill be adopted by Congress; and, as it is believed that ten days in each and every year will prove sufficient, the annual expense will be less than \$500,000.

**Details of the proposed system.**

It should be provided—

1st. That each and every free able-bodied white male citizen of the respective States, resident therein, who is or shall be of the age of twenty and under that of forty-five

shall, possessing in some degree, the military knowledge and skill of regular soldiers, they will be able alike to protect their country from a foreign foe, and to guard its liberties from any danger that may threaten them.

It appears to me that the organization now proposed will prevent the necessity of maintaining large standing armies, even in time of war. The militia, properly drilled and instructed, will thereby be rendered perfectly efficient, and capable of defending the forts along our maritime frontier, which, in the absence of such an organization will require a regular army of fifty thousand men. At present, the militia cannot be rendered immediately available against a surprise; whereas under the proposed organization, they would repair to their stations at the first alarm, and would be efficient soldiers when there. In case of war, those stations would become permanent, and the arrangements might easily be made so as to render the service as little burdensome as possible to the artisan and mechanic.

Every precaution has been taken to avoid all interference with the rights of the States, or to lessen their means of defence. The militia will be called out in the manner or present provided for by law, and no change is contemplated in the mode of officering the several corps of which the militia is composed. It will not abstract a single man from the defence of the State where he resides, nor separate him from the class of Citizens to which he belongs. It will, on the contrary, strengthen the defences of each State, by furnishing it with a well-organized and well-disciplined force, taken from the People, and making part of the People equally interested with their fellow-citizens in the preservation of free institutions, and ready at all times to guard the territory and the liberty of their country. Neither does it interfere, in any manner, with the constitutional rights of the States to train their own militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress, because the active militia will be employed by the President during the period they are preparing for warlike service in garrison and in the field. And while the States have all the advantages which may result from a well-organized and disciplined militia, they will, at the same time, be exempt from the losses, expenses, and evils which follow, necessarily, from the assembling of large multitudes for merely a nominal military instruction. It is to be considered, also, that a portion of the militia are provided with opportunities for the attainment of the essentials of military knowledge; and, at the same time that they relieve the remainder from an onerous and useless burden, they themselves will not be oppressed by an undue amount of military service being required of them; but, on the contrary, by comparing the time which, under the present system, is devoted to that object, it will be found that there is but very little additional service, if any, required, and for that time they will be sufficiently compensated. The compensation contemplated is adequate under a good administration of the laws proposed, which are to be made uniform in their application, by regulations to be issued by the President, so as to prevent any expense to the citizen who is thus called; though it may not rise, in amount, to the sum which his pursuits in social life might afford. The total amount required to recompense the militia to be called out for exercise will be trifling, when compared with the loss of time experienced by our fellow-citizens under the present imperfect organization, and of the serious evils to which the youth of the country are exposed by the frequent attempts now made to impart to them a very imperfect knowledge of the duties of the soldier. The subjoined plan will, it is believed, tend to diminish, if not entirely remove, such evils, and will also, by engendering an esprit de corps throughout the militia of the several districts, elevate in the mind of every citizen the character of the duties which he is required to perform, and thus make more certain the results which are hoped for by this system of military precaution and defence.

In preparing the details of the proposed reorganization of the militia of the United States, I have been governed by an earnest desire to place the country in an attitude of defence; and, at the same time, to secure it from the necessity of maintaining at any period a large standing army; to render the militia effective, without withdrawing too large a number of our fellow citizens from their occupations at any one time; and to diffuse throughout the community generally some knowledge of military service, without taxing the Treasury too heavily. All this, it appears to me, will be effected by drilling, during four years, one hundred thousand men, for a period not exceeding thirty nor less than ten days in each and every year, at such times as may least interfere with their ordinary occupations; and, for an equal term, keeping that force so organized that it may serve as a reserve, ready to act in cases of emergency; doing, in the meanwhile, ordinary militia duty, such as is now required by law in the several States. The expense of the system, which, if carried out, would place the United States in an impenetrable state of defence, will not exceed \$1,000,000 yearly, if the maximum number of days for drill be adopted by Congress; and, as it is believed that ten days in each and every year will prove sufficient, the annual expense will be less than \$500,000.

**Details of the proposed system.**  
It should be provided—

1st. That each and every free able-bodied white male citizen of the respective States, resident therein, who is or shall be of the age of twenty and under that of forty-five

shall, possessing in some degree, the military knowledge and skill of regular soldiers, they will be able alike to protect their country from a foreign foe, and to guard its liberties from any danger that may threaten them.

It appears to me that the organization now proposed will prevent the necessity of maintaining large standing armies, even in time of war. The militia, properly drilled and instructed, will thereby be rendered perfectly efficient, and capable of defending the forts along our maritime frontier, which, in the absence of such an organization will require a regular army of fifty thousand men. At present, the militia cannot be rendered immediately available against a surprise; whereas under the proposed organization, they would repair to their stations at the first alarm, and would be efficient soldiers when there. In case of war, those stations would become permanent, and the arrangements might easily be made so as to render the service as little burdensome as possible to the artisan and mechanic.











